

House Resolution No. 1866

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize an outstanding Missouri couple who have distinguished themselves as leaders of their community; and

Whereas, Jim and Evelyn Larkin, esteemed residents of Pierce City, Missouri, are to be commended for helping to establish the Children's Center of Southwest Missouri located between Monett and Pierce City; and

Whereas, the Children's Center was established in May 1997, since which time it has been steadfast in its efforts to reduce the trauma of abused children by facilitating a multidisciplinary response; and

Whereas, the Children's Center serves several main purposes in its mission to conduct one, neutral, child-friendly, fact-finding interview of the child; to provide a medical exam by a specially trained professional in a safe, child-friendly setting; to help the child victim and family navigate and understand the initial investigation and following legal process; and to provide therapy services for child abuse victims; and

Whereas, the Children's Center is dedicated to ten core components which include a child-friendly facility, multidisciplinary team, organization capacity, cultural competency, forensic interviews, therapeutic intervention, victim support/advocacy, case tracking, case review, and medical; and

Whereas, the Children's Center serves eleven counties in southwest Missouri: Bates, Barry, Barton, Cedar, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, St. Clair, and Vernon; and

Whereas, Jim and Evelyn Larkin have generously upholstered furniture for the Center's use and have played an integral role in the landscape design of the Karan Huffmaster Memorial Garden, choosing the plants, preparing the ground, digging holes, planting trees, and caring for the garden on a regular basis:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in expressing our utmost appreciation to Jim and Evelyn Larkin for their unparalleled service to the Children's Center of Southwest Missouri, and in wishing them only the very best of success in all their future endeavors; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Jim and Evelyn Larkin.

Offered by _____
Representative Jack Goodman
District No. 132

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1866, adopted April 20, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker